

**WACF/CA Meeting
February 23, 2017 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Centennial 2 Bldg. - 2121 S. State St, Tacoma, WA 98405
Mt. Baker Room / 2nd Floor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WACF Members:** Tom Rembiesa, Charlotte Booth, Kerry Ann Shaughnessy, Jeff Clare, Karen Brady  | **CA Members**: Jennifer Strus, Jenny Heddin, David Del Villar Fox, Darcy Hancock, Pam McKeown, Connie Lambert-Eckel, Doug Allison, Toni Sabastian |

| Agenda Item  | **Discussion** | **Decisions** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Update on what items were / were not included in the Governor’s budget**
 | Adds:* Partial funding for additional CA workers – stated as 50 additional staff but of that 50, 18 are repurposing existing staff
* Extending FAR timeframe, (the future of waivers is uncertain).
* Funding Wendy’s Wonderful Kids
* Significant investment on compensation (class-wide pay increases)

Not Funded:* Reimbursement for Parent/Child Visitation mileage
* Higher rate for time spent in travel to client homes
* Licensing staff
* Performance Based Contracting expansion
 |  |
| 1. CA’s legislative priorities
 | * FAR bill
* HB 1791 – States that CA needs to comply with the federal law, it may get included in a proviso at a cost of $2.6 million
* Definition of Parent
* Information sharing with CRC providers

  |  |
| 1. **WACF support for implementation and funding of the Blue Ribbon’s Commission’s proposal for a new cabinet level department**
 | CA has some concerns with the changes that were made in the substitute bills, especially with the performance based contracting requirements. This is in line with WACF’s concerns.  |  |
| 1. **Continuum of Care Report and strategy for moving forward**
 | We touched briefly on the process to the extent that it started late and stakeholder meetings offered limited time for a robust discussion. Jenny reported on the recommendations in the report. WACF gave a heads-up that CA should expect some criticism at the upcoming hearing, as we have heard of some dissatisfaction among providers. We indicated that WACF has not taken a position on the report since the three divisions have not yet had an opportunity to review and discuss it. It will be another month before that happens and before it can be discussed at a membership meeting. Jennifer indicated she will welcome the feedback from WACF.Jennifer stated that she understands that the report does not adequately address next steps. There are dollars attached but no money in the Governor’s budget. The things that cost money will be part of a supplemental budget ask.  |  |
| **5. SB 5105 (Licensing Bill)** | Jeff reported that Sen. O’Ban chose not to move forward with the bill. |  |
| **6. Rep. Kagi’s Reinventing Foster Care** | We discussed some of the most recent list of items on the Reinventing Foster Care package:* Expand Performance Based Contracting (Network Administration) - $2.5 million (on top of the dollars in the Governor’s budget for maintaining FIN)
* Department of Children, Youth and Families - $19 million
* CA - Reducing caseloads to 18 and adding back transportation staff and clerical staff – approx. $9 million
* Full reimbursement for travel time - $4.8 million
* Reimbursement for travel for parent/child visitation - $3 million
* Wendy’s Wonderful Kids $.5 million
 |  |
| **7. Budget for In-Home Services not being cut back because of money underspent last year** | CA is earning more federal money currently and has offered the legislature a one-time swap of funds, state for federal. CA is trying to move some money to bolster staffing levels, increase transportation options for parents, create more of an array of services in visitations, beef up FPS and allow CA social workers to buy supplies (car seats, diapers, groceries, etc.) to help with placements. They are trying to eliminate some of the poverty related barriers to help placements with kin. |  |
| **8. Coordinated Care – CPA Case Workers having access to their medical information** | Jeff explained how some private agency case managers are having difficulty accessing medical information from Coordinated Care.  | Toni will bring the issue back to the program manager. |
| **9. Update on Parent Child Visitation in Region 1** | The pilot will last 6 months. There is no data yet so it is too early to tell.  | Jenny will e-mail the PowerPoint on the initial data that has been collected. |
| **10. Giddens / Ballmer Foster Care Project** | Tom wanted to make sure that CA is aware of the Giddens/Ballmer Foster Care Project. Jennifer said they have been informed. Jeff gave a brief explanation of the 3 workgroups- Recruitment, Retention and Advocacy. |  |
| **11. Status on out of state kids** | CA has had conversations with out of state providers about coming in and renovating unused state facilities. Some of the recommendations for the most suitable facilities are; Fircrest School on the perimeter, and two other locations in E. WA. One is an abandoned residential hall at Lakeland Village and the other is the Education Center at Pine Lodge.CA reported that there are currently 49 kids out of state as of Dec. 2016. Most of the kids are in the Sequel Systems, the numbers have stabilized, and the kids are staying shorter durations. |  |
| **12. Status on STRIVE** | CA reported that POC is having difficulty getting participation. |  |

## Prepared by Linda Conchi